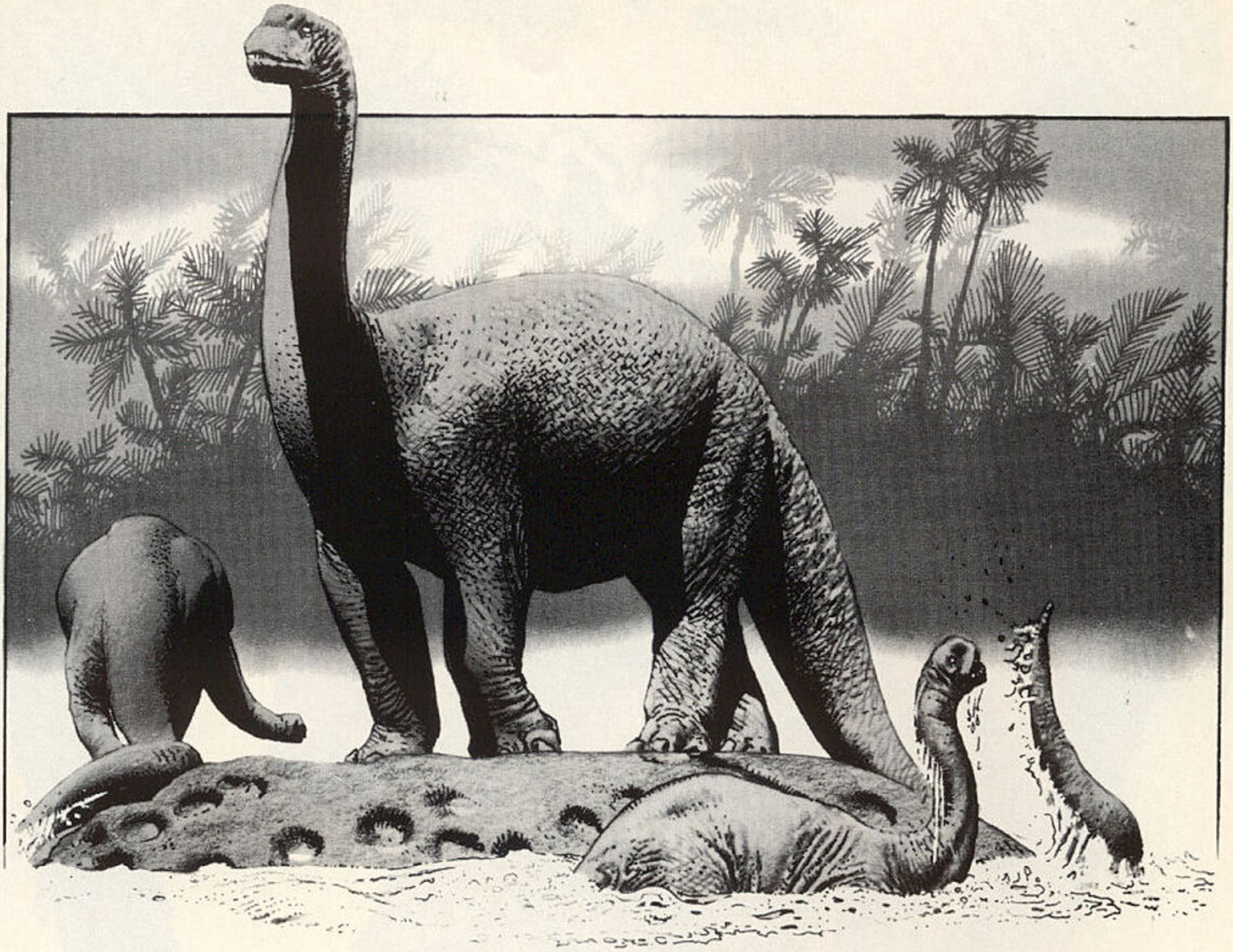


HERE WE ARE WITH RIP 3 ALREADY. WHAT? YOU SAY 12 WEEKS ON AN 8 WEEK SCHEDULE IS A LITTLE PAST "ALREADY"? SORRY FOLKS BUT I HAD ABOUT THREE OTHER PROJECTS TO WORK INTO THE SCHEDULE. IF FANTAGOR COMICS SALES INCREASE, I WILL TRY TO KEEP THAT FROM HAPPENING. WE HAVE A LONG LETTER COLUMN THIS TIME WITH SOME SWELL PITHY COMMENTS, SO LET'S GET ON WITH IT.

DEAR RICHARD CORBEN,

I MUST SAY THE COLORS ON THE COVER OF RIP #2 WERE BEAUTIFUL. IT LEPT OFF THE SHELVES AT THE LOCAL COMIC SHOP. THE ABSENCE OF "NUMBER 2 OF 5" ON THE COVER MADE IT ALL THE MORE STRIKING, BUT THE MAIN REASON I'M WRITING CONCERNS YOUR BACKUP STORY "GOING HOME". AFTER READING IT IN BLACK AND WHITE, I PULLED OUT MY COPY OF FUNNYWORLD 14, WHERE IT APPEARS IN COLOR. I NOTICED THE ANDROIDS WEREN'T CLOTHED IN THE ORIGINAL STORY. I ASSUME THIS WAS DONE TO MAKE THE BOOK STAY WITHIN THE LEVELS OF "INDEPENDENT" COMICS, AND NOT FALL INTO THE "UNDERGROUND" CATEGORY. DOES THIS MEAN FURTHER REPRINTS WILL BE ALTERED AND WILL THIS LIMIT THESE REPRINTS TO "CLEAN" STORIES? IF NOT, HERE IS A VOTE FOR "THE STORY OF OTEG" OR "HOW HOWIE MADE IT IN THE REAL WORLD".

P.S. PLEASE ELABORATE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A COLOR SERIES NEXT YEAR.

WOODY COMPTON
TALLAHASSEE, FL

YES, GOING HOME WAS ALTERED FOR USE AS A BACKUP STORY IN RIP 2. FOR MORE ON THIS SUBJECT, SEE STEPHANIE STACY'S LETTER. HOW HOWIE MADE IT IN THE REAL WORLD IS ONE OF MY FAVORITES AND I WAS THINKING ABOUT COMPLETELY REDRAWING IT.

HERE'S A BRIEF PREVIEW OF NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULE: MARCH, RIP 4; MAY, RIP 5; JULY, VIC & BLOOD FOR MAD DOG GRAPHICS; SEPTEMBER, VIC & BLOOD 2; NOVEMBER, A THREE PART MINI SERIES IN COLOR IS TENTATIVE FROM FANTAGOR PRESS.

DEAR RICHARD CORBEN,

FIRST I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU AND BRUCE ON YOUR LATEST COLLABORATION. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE TWO OF YOU HAVE PUT A GREAT DEAL OF THOUGHT INTO ITS CONTENT WITH REGARDS TO THINGS SUCH AS SEX, VIOLENCE AND NUDITY. AGAIN THIS IS COMPLETELY UNDERSTANDABLE. WITH THIS IN MIND HOWEVER I MUST OBJECT STRONGLY TO THE TREATMENT OF EARLIER MATERIAL WHICH WAS REPRINTED IN THE SECOND ISSUE.

I WAS ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH "GOING HOME" AND ENJOYED READING IT AGAIN. I REALIZED HOWEVER, AS I WAS READING THAT THIS WAS NOT THE SAME STRIP I WAS FAMILIAR WITH. FOR IN THE "RIP IN TIME" REPRINT THE ANDROIDS SPORT WHAT APPEAR TO BE FORM FITTING SPACE SUITS IN ALL THE FRAMES WHERE THEY WERE NUDE IN THE ORIGINAL. THIS SHADING CANNOT BE THE ANSWER. IF YOU HAVE DECIDED THAT FRONTAL NUDITY IS UNACCEPTABLE, THAT IS FINE. BUT TO RESORT TO TACTICS JUST SHORT OF VANDALISM CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED! IF THE STRIP DOES NOT CONFORM TO THE LIMITATIONS YOU HAVE PLACED ON YOURSELF IT SHOULD NOT BE USED.

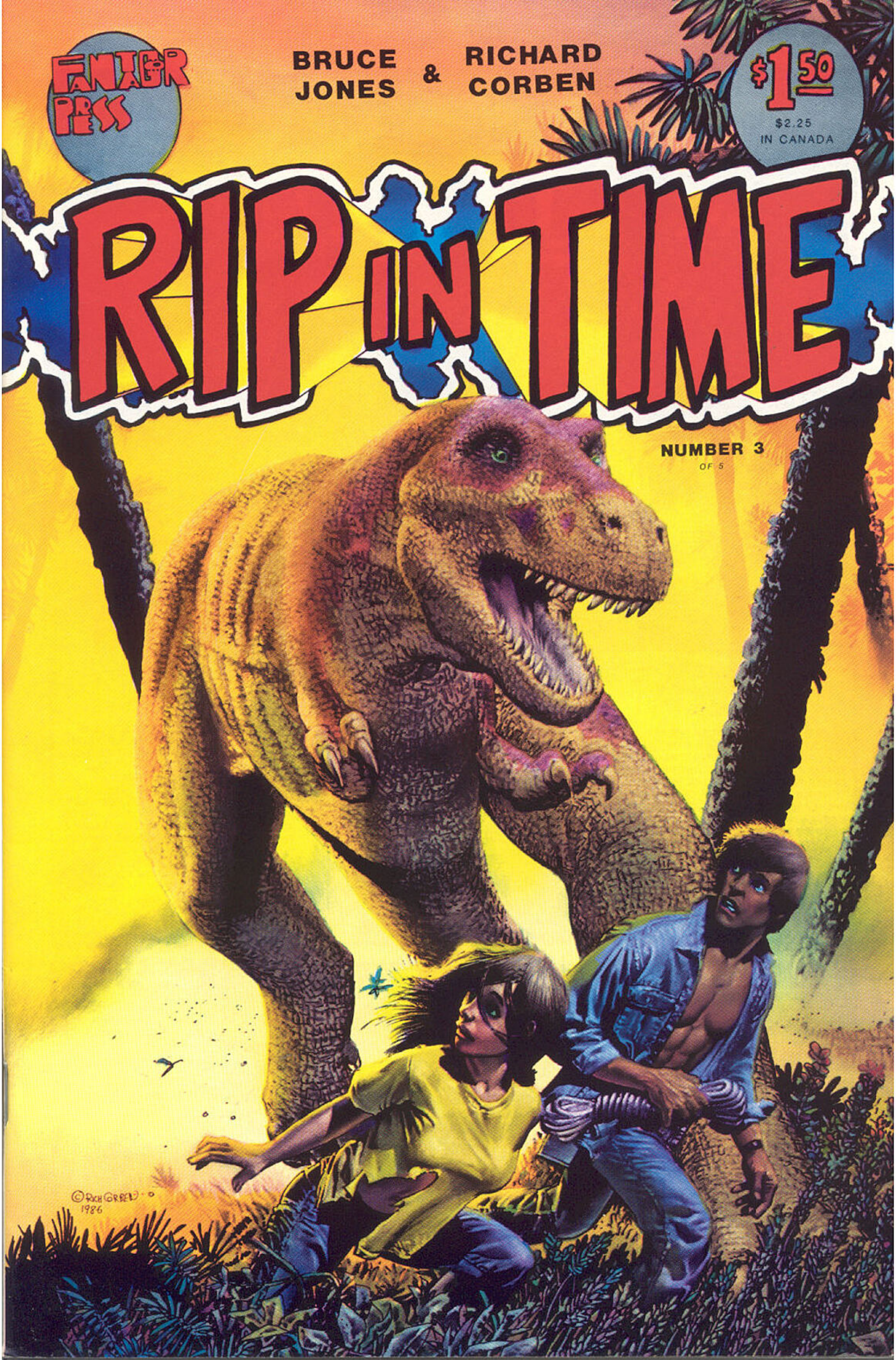
THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE STRIP AS IT ORIGINALLY APPEARED, AND IF THE MATERIAL WAS INAPPROPRIATE FOR PRINTING IN ITS ENTIRETY IT SHOULD NOT HAVE APPEARED AT ALL. AS YOU SHOWED IN THE FIRST ISSUE IT IS POSSIBLE TO REPRINT EARLIER MATERIAL THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE "TOUCHING UP" TO BE ACCEPTABLE.

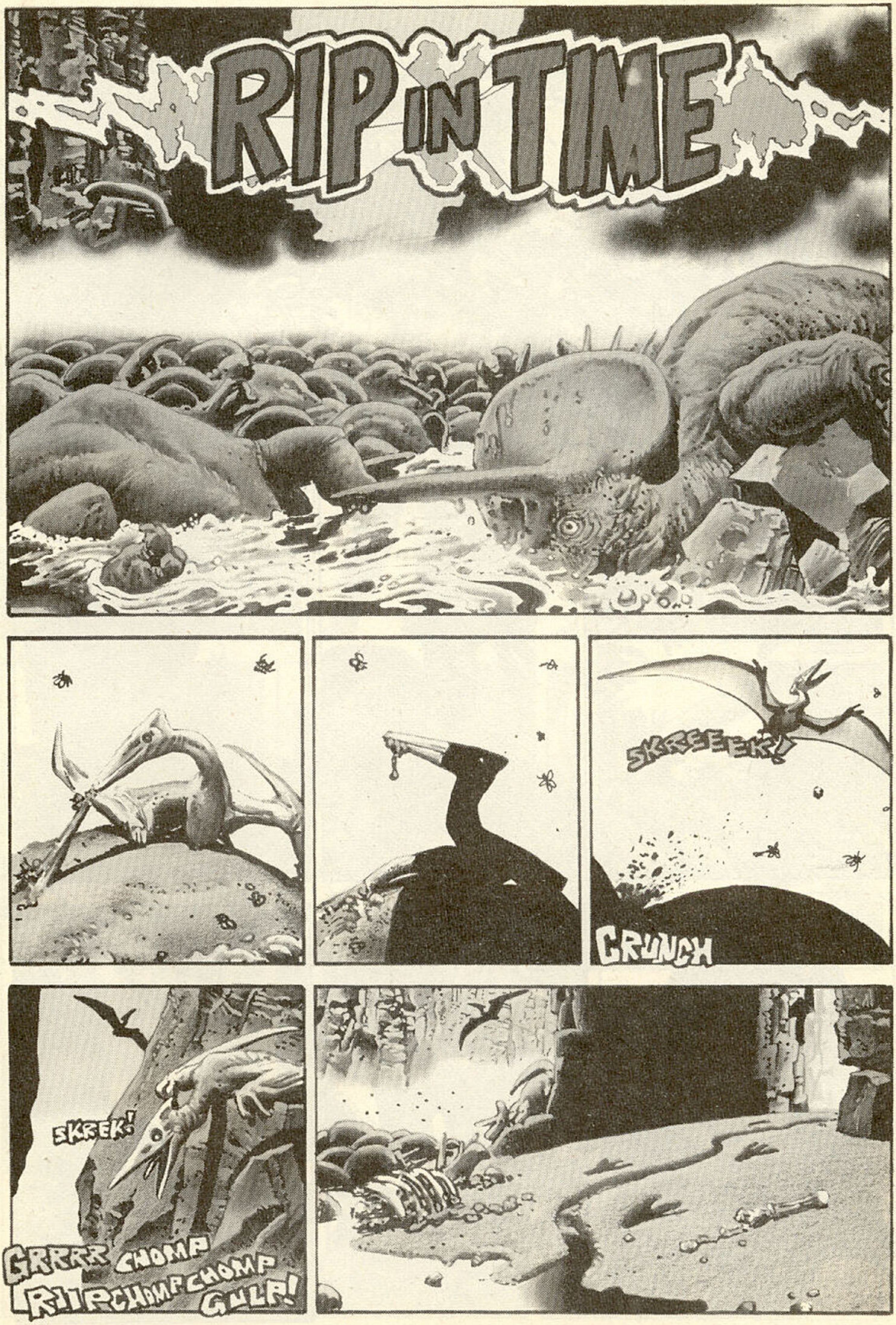
STEPHANIE STACY
WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA

GOING HOME WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN MIKE BARRIER'S FUNNY WORLD IN 1971. AT THE TIME, THE CIRCULATION WAS UNDER 2000 AND IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO ASSUME MOST OF THOSE 2000 MAGAZINES

LETTERS CONTINUED ON INSIDE BACK COVER.

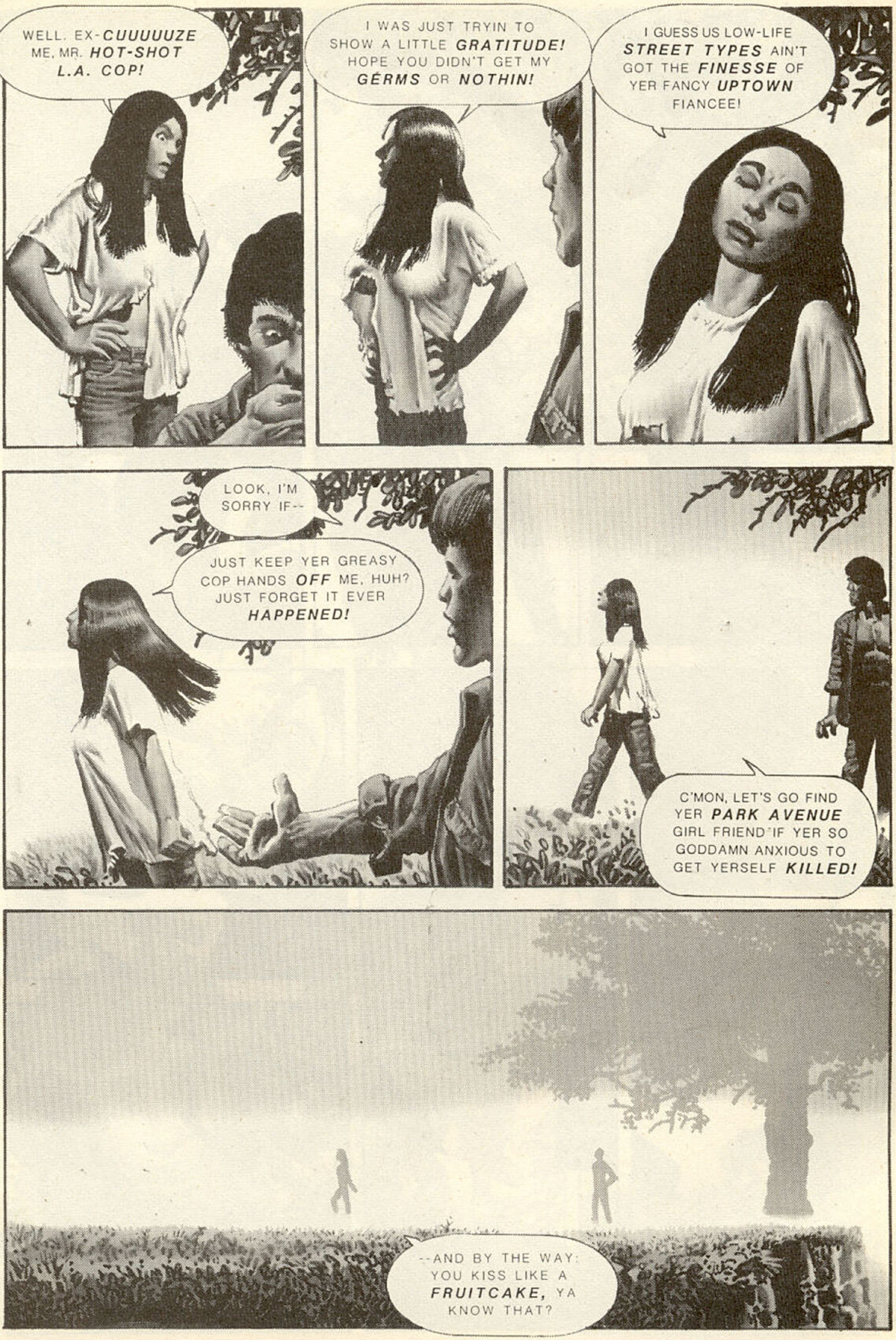
RIP IN TIME 3. RIP IN TIME IS PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY FANTAGOR PRESS, A DIVISION OF CORBEN STUDIOS; P.O. BOX 8632; KANSAS CITY, MO. 64114. ***RIP IN TIME IS COPYRIGHTED © 1987 BY RICHARD CORBEN AND BRUCE JONES. THE SECRET OF ZOKMA IS COPYRIGHT © 1972 AND 1987 BY RICHARD CORBEN AND WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN WIERD FANTASIES. THE ENTIRE CONTENTS ARE COPYRIGHT © 1987 BY RICHARD CORBEN. ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN NAMES, CHARACTERS, PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS IN THIS COMIC BOOK AND THOSE OF ANY REAL PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS IS COINCIDENTAL.***

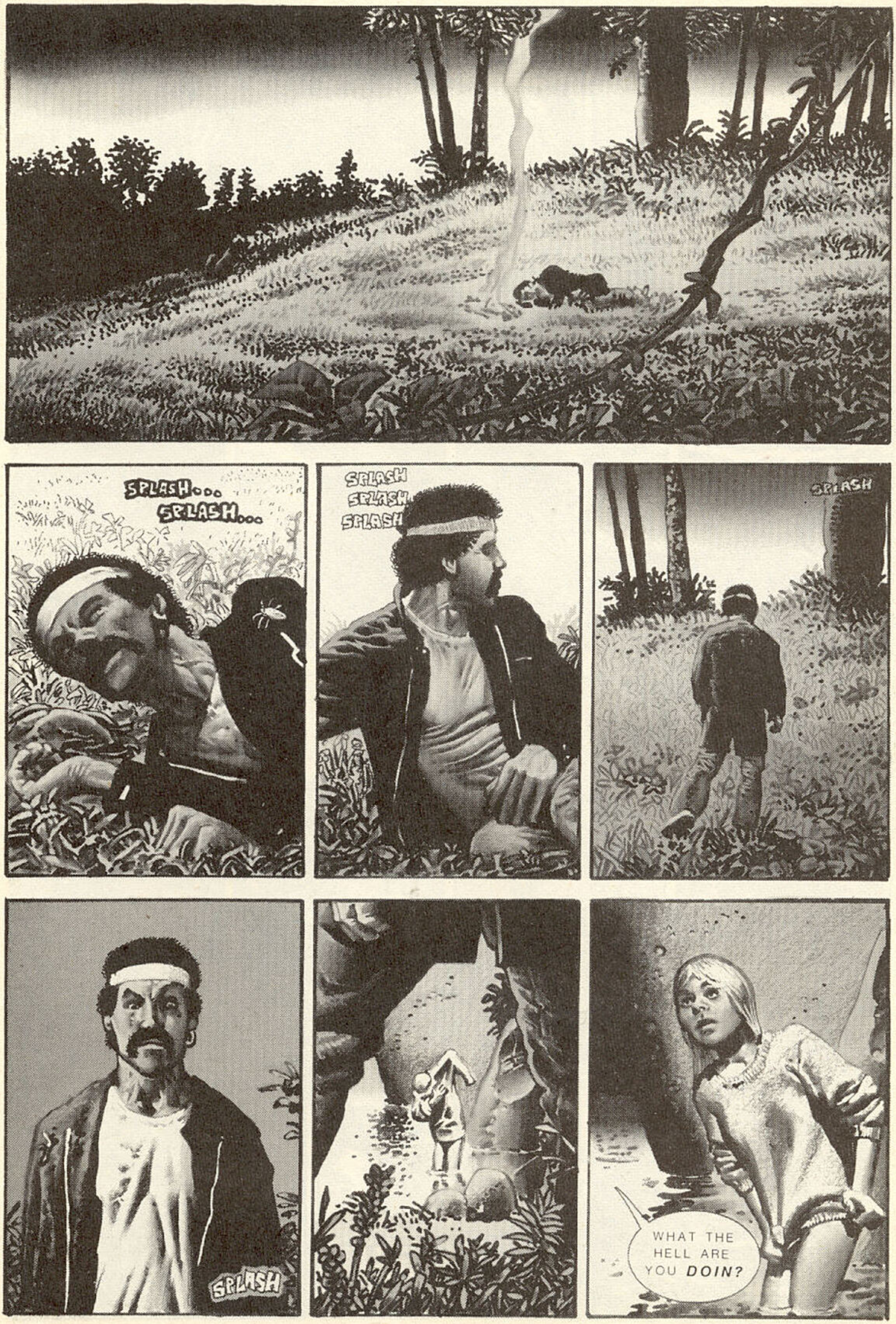

FANTAGOR PRESS
BRUCE JONES & RICHARD CORBEN
$1.50
$2.25 IN CANADA
RIP IN TIME
NUMBER 3
OF 5
©RICH CORBEN 1986


RIP IN TIME
SKREEEK!
CRUNCH
SKREEK!
GRRRR CHOMP
RIIPCHOMPCHOMP
GULP!

GOOD MORNING...
MY GOD, IT'S DAWN! I SLEPT ALL NIGHT!
YOU NEEDED IT. BIG DAY.
YOU SAVED MY LIFE, RIP...
I DON'T THINK I EVER THANKED YOU...
GOTTA GET GOIN... LOSIN' TIME...

C'MON, DARLENE...
SMAK
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU **DOIN?**
THUMP
UH!


WELL. EX-CUUUUUZE ME, MR. HOT-SHOT L.A. COP!
I WAS JUST TRYIN TO SHOW A LITTLE GRATITUDE! HOPE YOU DIDN'T GET MY GÉRMS OR NOTHIN!
I GUESS US LOW-LIFE STREET TYPES AIN'T GOT THE FINESSE OF YER FANCY UPTOWN FIANCEE!
LOOK, I'M SORRY IF--
JUST KEEP YER GREASY COP HANDS OFF ME, HUH? JUST FORGET IT EVER HAPPENED!
C'MON, LET'S GO FIND YER PARK AVENUE GIRL FRIEND IF YER SO GODDAMN ANXIOUS TO GET YERSELF KILLED!
--AND BY THE WAY: YOU KISS LIKE A FRUITCAKE, YA KNOW THAT?


SPLASH...
SPLASH...
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOIN?

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? I WAS BATHING. I STANK!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE THE HINT...
IS THAT AN INVITATION?
NOT NOW!
WHY NOT? YOU MODEST?
SPLARSH!
AGGH!
SLLUSGH!

BLUB
BURK
BLUB
(GASP!) AHH!
SPLAS
SLUSH
SPLUSH
SLUSH
NO!
HEH-HEH!
M-MPH!

...W-WHAT IS IT?... Y-YOU STOPPED...
YOU LIKE IT! YOU LIKE IT ROUGH! YOU ARE ONE OF THEM BLUE-COLLAR-LOVER-TYPES!
SLAP
YOU LIKE IT... IT TURNS YOU ON!... SAY YOU LIKE IT, MAGGIE GIRL! SAY IT!
PIG! PA-TOO
SLAP SLAP SLAP SLAP
YES! I LIKE IT, YOU CREEP! FILTHY...MMMPH ...CREEP...
OOWH!
SLAP
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

WHAT IS IT?
NO SKELETONS... THEY GOT OUT.
ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THEIR VEHICLE.
HERE'S SOMETHING...
COIL OF EMERGENCY ROPE--NYLON. MUST'VE BLOWN CLEAR OF THE EXPLOSION; FIRE DIDN'T GET IT HERE. WE CAN USE THIS.
DARLENE? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
TURN AROUND SLOWLY... DON'T EVEN BREATHE... ...IT HASN'T SEEN US YET...

--I WON'T LET HIM INTO THIS LAB.
THANKS FOR THE DOPE--
WAIT!
WELL?
...UH, Y-YOUR 'OFFER' A FEW SECONDS AGO...IS IT STILL GOOD?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
ENLISTED PEOPLE GET LONELY TOO, DR. PHILPOT...
I DON'T GET IT...
HOW CAN YOU--STOP! LOOK OUT!
KONK
... YOU MIGHT BUMP YOUR HEAD.
CALL
ENTRY 4
ANSWER
OPEN

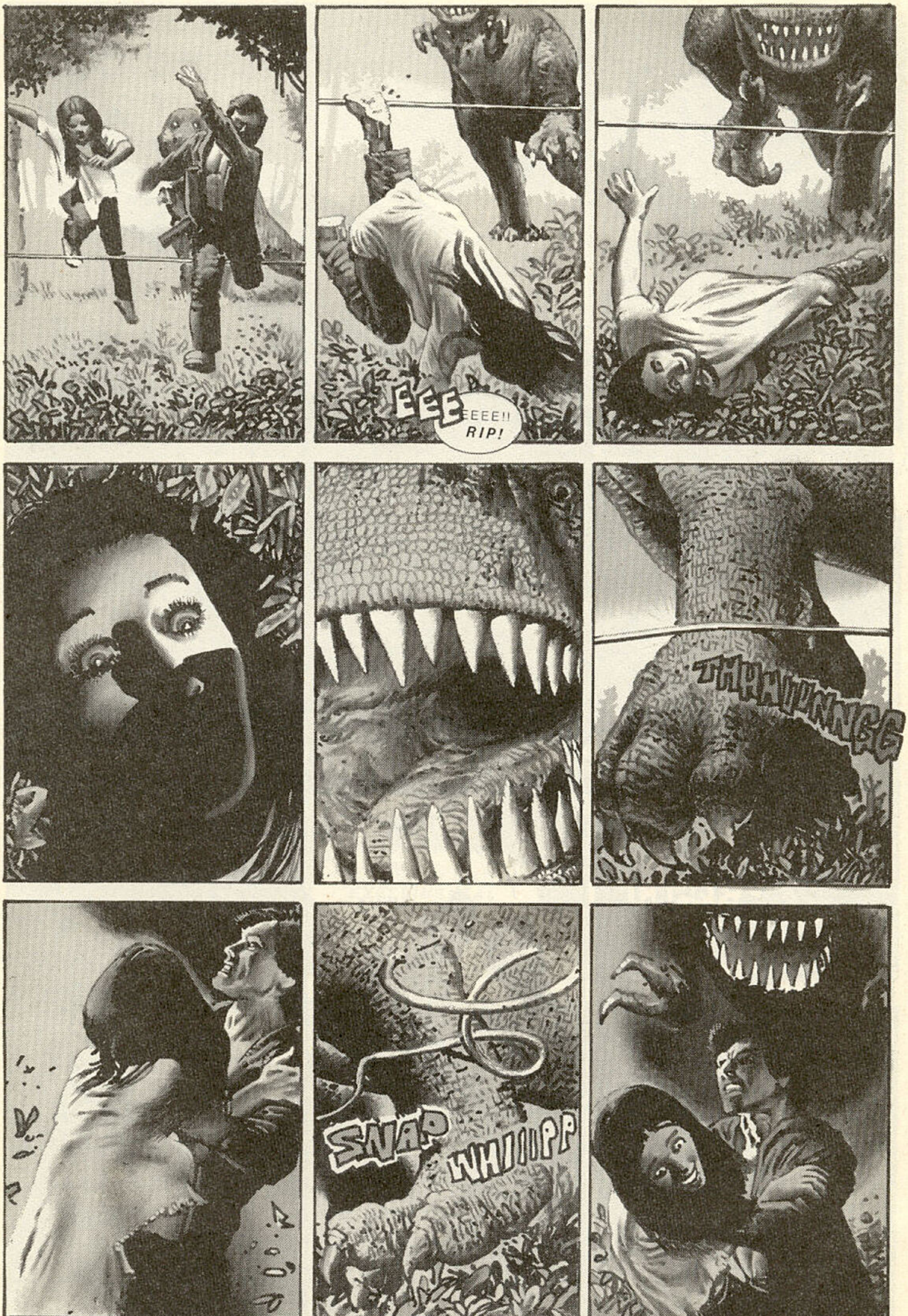
PHILPOT! HEY! WAKE-UP!
--UH? COUGH! WHAZZIT? (COUGH-HACK!)
WHERE'S EVERYBODY? THE CREW-- COUGH!
GONE TO BED, EXHAUSTED. SECOND SHIFT WILL BE HERE SOON.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO MY ROOM. COFFEE DOESN'T DO THE TRICK ANYMORE; I NEED SOME UPPERS.
COL NELSON
MIND IF I JOIN YOU? I COULD USE A PICK-ME-UP MYSELF.
COZY.
JUST TAKE THE DRUGS AND LEAVE, PLEASE.
BUT SHARON! WE'RE FINALLY ALONE! THIS IS YOUR BIG CHANCE!
PLEASE! I'M TIRED!
(GULP!) OKAY, BUT I MEANT WHAT I SAID ABOUT THAT PSYCHO BOUNTY HUNTER, ROPER--

SNIFF
CHUFF!
WE'VE GOT TO GET INTO THE TREES!-- WHERE THE FIRE DIDN'T REACH! BACK AWAY SLOWLY!
SKRATCH SKRITCH
CRACK!
WHUF?
RAUGH!
GO! RUN!!

THUMP THUMP THUMP
PHILPOT! PHILPOT! WE'RE IN TROUBLE!
--PHILPOT, THIS IS SERGEANT SCULLY! DO YOU COPY? IS ANYBODY THERE?
THAT RAVINE, QUICK!
DOWN!

RUSTLE
SWISH
IS HE GONE?
NO!
HE'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS HE CATCHES OUR SCENT!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST SHOOT IT?
A .45 SLUG AGAINST THAT HIDE? FORGET IT!
HERE, TIE THE OTHER END TO THAT BIG TREE!
GOOD! NOW, WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO CHASE US THIS WAY...
HUH??
ARE YOU NUTS? LET'S RUN!
HE'LL ONLY SPOT US AND RUN US DOWN. STICK TO OUR PLAN
YOUR PLAN!

KRUCH!
DAMN! HE DIDN'T GO BETWEEN THE TREES!
WHAT (GASP!) NOW?
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CIRCLE BACK AND TRY AGAIN!
RIP, I CAN'T (GASP!) MAKE IT!
YES YOU CAN!


EEEEEEE!!
RIP!
THHHUNNGG
SNAP
WHIIIPP

KA-ROOOMMM!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
...IS IT--??
I SINCERELY HOPE SO. THE GUN'S EMPTY...

SNNGGGHHHHHHH
ROPER!
CHRIST, YOU SCARED ME!
PHILPOT...?
I DRUGGED HIM, HE'LL BE OUT FOR HOURS, WE'LL HAVE TIME.
AS I SAID ON THE PHONE, THE GATE IS DAMAGED SLIGHTLY-- I CAN ONLY HOLD IT OPEN FOR YOU A SECOND OR TWO.
TAKE THIS--IT'S STILL EXPERIMENTAL BUT DEADLY.
AND REMEMBER YOUR OBJECTIVE: NO ONE SURVIVES. UNDERSTOOD?
IT'S OPEN! GO! NOW!

VTT
SKREEK!
PHUNKT
WHUMP
KLIK WHIIRR
WATCH FOR MORE
THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT
IN RIP IN TIME 4!!

RICHARD CORBEN ART PRINTS

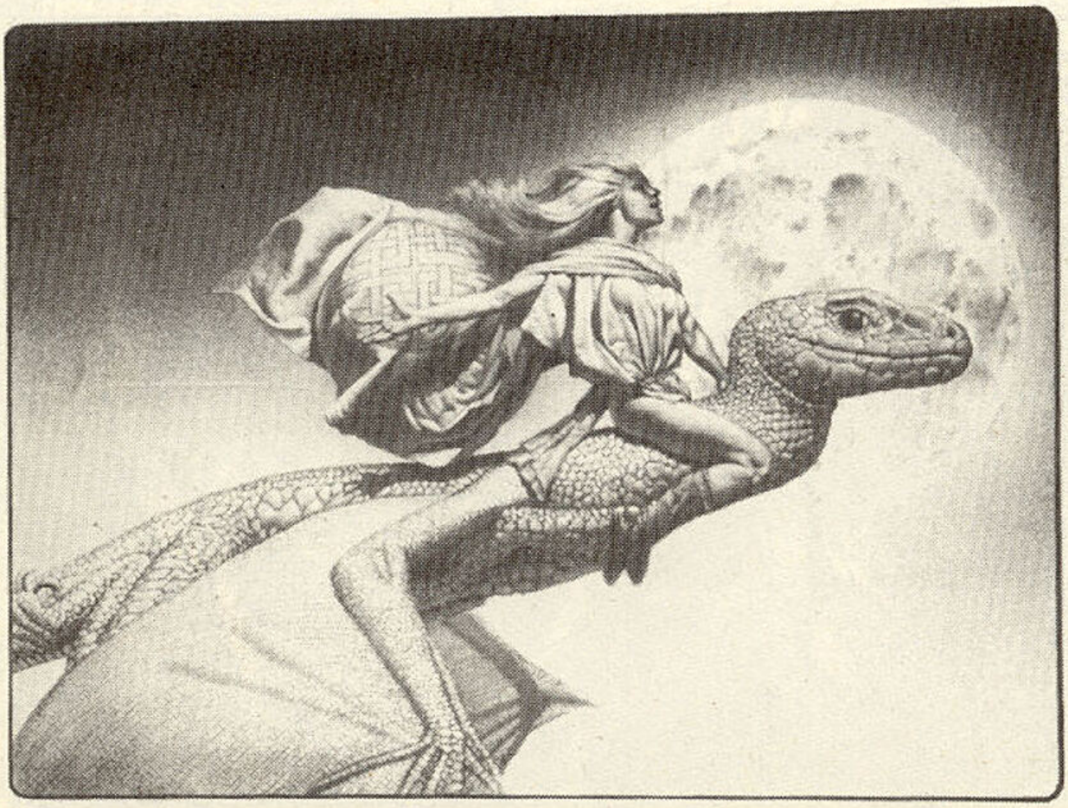
BLUE DRAGON. ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO, I WAS DISSATISFIED ABOUT MY INABILITY TO COURT THE POPULAR FANTASY MARKET. A FRIEND WHO WAS DOING QUITE WELL SUGGESTED THAT MY SUBJECT MATTER WAS TOO HEAVY AND I SHOULD TRY SOMETHING IN A LIGHTER OR HUMOROUS VEIN. I REALLY WASN'T READY TO DO "CUTE" ELVES, UNICORNS AND DRAGONS BUT I FELT A COMPROMISE WAS IN ORDER. ***BLUE DRAGON*** IS A STEP IN A MORE HUMOROUS DIRECTION BY MAKING A FANTASY JAB AT MALE CHAUVINIST ATTITUDES. THE RESULT HAS RECEIVED A LOT OF COMMENT AND IS MY MOST POPULAR PRINT.

UNMATTED 13" X 17" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, NON LIMITED EDITION, EACH SIGNED BY CORBEN. $ 15.00

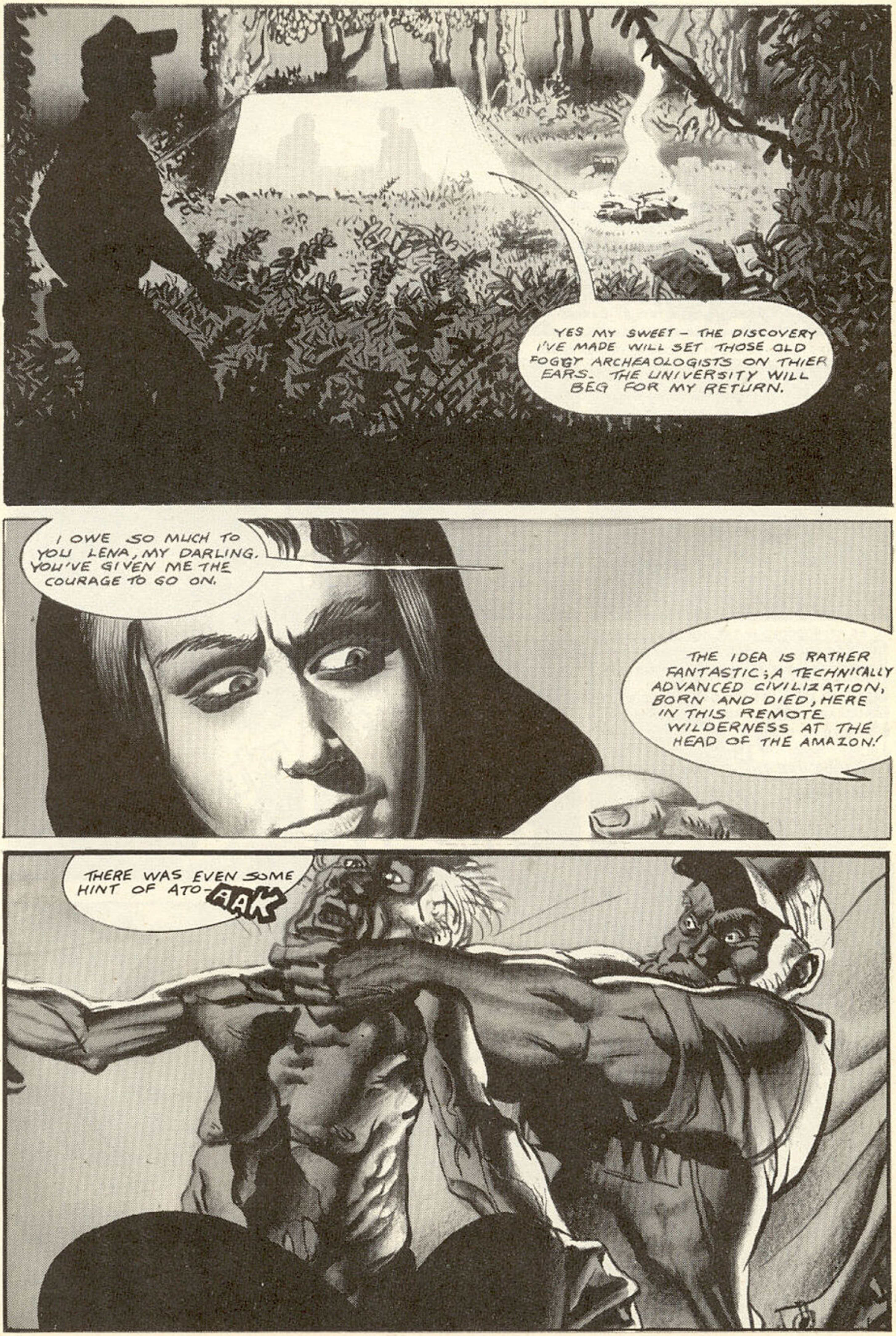
NIGHT FLIGHT IS PRINTED FROM AN ORIGINAL BLACK AND WHITE TONAL DRAWING. THE COLORING WAS PRODUCED WITH A SPECIAL OVERLAY TECHNIQUE OF MY OWN INVENTION WHICH ALLOWS THE MODELING EFFECTS TO BE REPRODUCED IN THE COLOR PLATES, NOT JUST THE BLACK PLATE. FOUR TRIAL COLOR PROOFS WERE MADE BEFORE THE FILMS WERE APPROVED.

MATTED 8" X 10" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 10.00

TO ORDER USE THE FORM ON THE LAST PAGE.

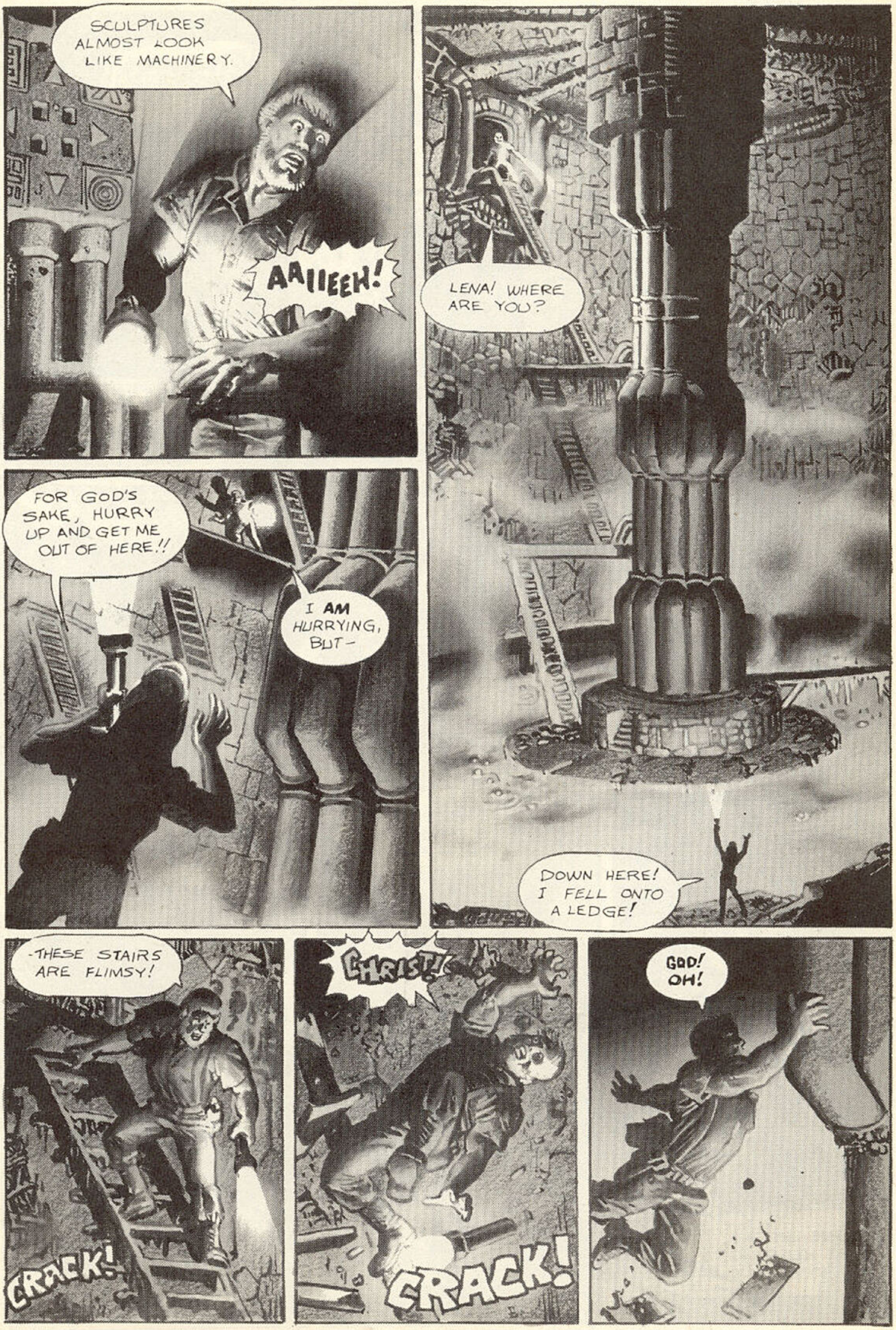


© 1986 RICHARD CORBEN


YES MY SWEET - THE DISCOVERY I'VE MADE WILL SET THOSE OLD FOGGY ARCHEAOLOGISTS ON THIER EARS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL BEG FOR MY RETURN.
I OWE SO MUCH TO YOU LENA, MY DARLING. YOU'VE GIVEN ME THE COURAGE TO GO ON.
THE IDEA IS RATHER FANTASTIC; A TECHNICALLY ADVANCED CIVILIZATION, BORN AND DIED, HERE IN THIS REMOTE WILDERNESS AT THE HEAD OF THE AMAZON!
THERE WAS EVEN SOME HINT OF ATO-
AAK

THE SECRET OF ZOKMA
JUST LIKE PROF SAID! THE TEMPLE OF ZOKMA,... WITH ITS HOARDED TREASURES WAITING FOR US.
GOD, WE'LL BE RICH!... LOOK! THERE'S TOZO, THAT BASTARD; I THOUGHT HE RAN AWAY INTO THE FORREST.
WHITES GO BACK! THIS FORBIDDEN PLACE!
LOOK! GOLDEN BRACELETS!
WHAT'S THE MATTER TOZO? YOU ARE OUR FRIEND. YOU WERE GOING TO HELP US!
TOZO NO HELP! TOZO WRONG TO SHOW WAY. TOZO NOW ZOKMA PRIEST- MUST PROTECT TEMPLE!
LOOK AT HIS SKIN!

WHITES KNOW SECRET! MUST DIE!
GUK
AK-LENA HELP!
BLAM
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY "SECRET"?
GOLD! HE'S BEEN IN THE TEMPLE
C'MON, I WANT TO SEE THE REST OF IT.
GURGLE
SSSSSSSSS
THE MARKER WITH THE HYROGLYPHICS THAT PROF FOUND, SURE PAID OFF! TOO BAD HE DIDN'T LIVE TO SEE THIS!


SCULPTURES ALMOST LOOK LIKE MACHINERY.
AAIIEEH!
LENA! WHERE ARE YOU?
FOR GOD'S SAKE, HURRY UP AND GET ME OUT OF HERE!!
I AM HURRYING, BUT-
DOWN HERE! I FELL ONTO A LEDGE!
-THESE STAIRS ARE FLIMSY!
CRACK!
CHRIST!!
CRACK!
GOD! OH!

SURE IS DARK IN HERE.
MADDOX! HERE'S A DOOR. LET'S CHECK IT OUT.
SOME SORT OF FOG-
PROBABLY HOT AND COLD AIR CURRENTS FROM BELOW CAUSING A REACTION.
LET'S SPLIT UP AND SEARCH IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.
THESE STAIRS JUST KEEP GOING DOWN ENDLESSLY.
-CAN'T SEE A THING IN THIS FOG.
AAAAH!

SPLASH!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH! - THERE'S WATER IN THIS WELL! IT'S FILLED WITH SKELETONS!
THIS MUST BE A TEMPLE TO THEIR GOD!
IT'S A SACRIFICIAL WELL...
THEY DROWNED VICTIMS IN IT.
PROF WAS RIGHT. THIS WAS A TECHNIC-ALLY ADVANCED CIVILIZATION.
FORGET THE HISTORY LESSON! GET ME OUT OF HERE!
THIS WELL IS SOME SORT OF HUGE MACHINE...
ALL I WANT IS TO FIND WHAT WE CAME FOR!!

I WONDER IF THIS PLACE PREDATES THE INCAN CIVILIZATION LIKE HE SAID!
SCRATCH SCRATCH
LENA, I HAVE AN UNEASY FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS VERY STRANGE HERE.
YOU FOOL! THIS IS OUR BIG BREAK. DON'T BLOW IT!
THE ARTSTYLE OF THE CARVINGS IS UNFAMILIAR.
NEVERMIND! I WANT THE GOLD!
LENA... UNH... I FEEL... SICK!

THE GOLD!
YES, THE GOLD, LENA, WE SHALL SHARE MY DISCOVERY FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
YOU!
SLAM
POOR TOZO PULLED ME OUT OF THAT SHALLOW GRAVE... I WASN'T QUITE DEAD YET. SO WE FOUND THE SECRET OF ZOKMA.
WELL I FOUND THE SECRET TOO... NOW I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE DEAD THIS TIME!
THE SECRET IS THE DESEASE... THERE'S RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES IN HERE LENA. THE RADIATION HAS CAUSED SOME SIMPLE BACTERIA TO MUTATE INTO A HORRIBLE PLAGUE GERM. IT WIPED THE ZOKMAN CIVILIZATION OUT. IT IS ONLY HELD IN CHECK BY THE REMOTNESS OF THIS LOCATION... WE'RE DOOMED!
I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO OPEN THE DOOR LENA, MY LOVE... AND IF YOU TOUCH ANYTHING, YOU'LL CONTRACT THE DESEASE.
DON'T POSTPONE THE INEVITABLE. LET US US DIE TOGETHER IN AN EMBRACE.
I... I JUST WANTED THE GOLD.
THE END
CORE 72

TOZO... TOZO WAS SICK! HE TOUCHED ME; NOW I'VE ... GOT... IT GASP
IT'S BECAUSE... THE... GOLD!
GET AWAY! GETAWAY!
BAM BAM BAM
HE TOUCHED MY SHIRT. 'GOTTA GET IT OFF!
GURGLE
BELCH
ERRG... IT'S... RADI... UGH!

RICHARD CORBEN
BLACK & WHITE ART PRINTS

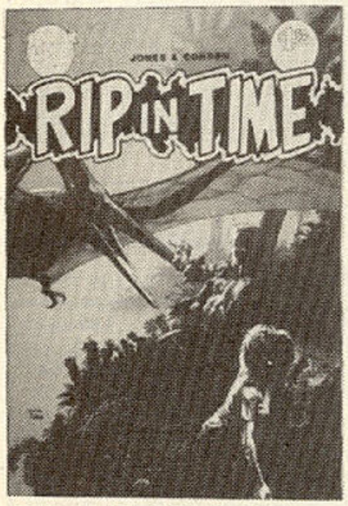
MO TOWN MAN MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT. LIMITED EDITION OF 100, EACH SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 8.00

COUGAR MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT. LIMITED EDITION OF 100, EACH SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 8.00

EAGLE MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT. LIMITED EDITION OF 100, EACH SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 8.00

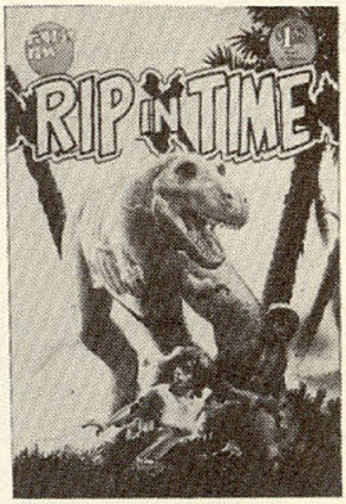
BISON MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT. LIMITED EDITION OF 100, EACH SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 8.00

RIP IN TIME BACK ISSUES!



RIP 1 IS SOLD OUT.

RIP 2 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE



RIP 3 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE

USE THE ORDER FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE.

Comics Buyer's Guide Fan Awards for 1986

1. Favorite Editor, 2. Favorite Writer, 3. Favorite Penciller, 4. Favorite Inker, 5. Favorite Colorist 6. Favorite Letterer, 7. Favorite Cover Artist, 8. Favorite Comic-Book Story, 9. Favorite Comic Book, 10. Favorite Limited Comic-Book Series, 11. Favorite Graphic Novel, 12. Favorite Character, 13. Favorite Publication about Comics, and Phil Seuling Award for Favorite Direct-Sale-Only Title.

Only material cover-dated 1986 is eligible for consideration. Votes for ineligible material will not be counted.

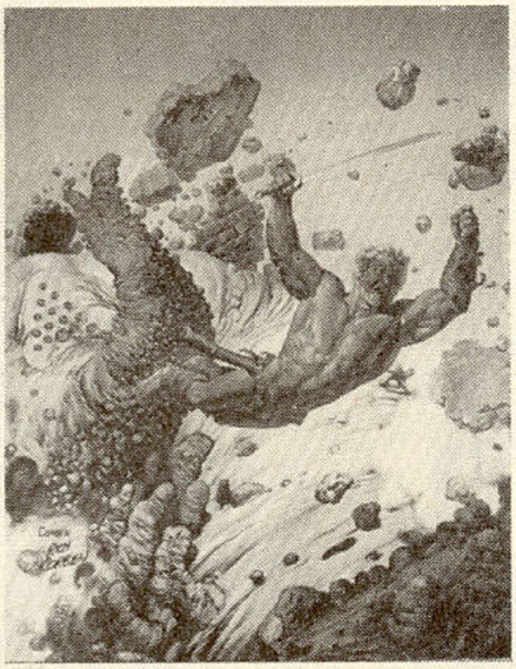
Anyone may copy and circulate this ballot, and any fan may vote only once and vote for no more than one nominee in each category. Ballot-box stuffing will result in the destruction of all ballots involved. You need not vote in all categories. *Comics Buyer's Guide* is not eligible for Category 13.

A free copy of *Comics Buyer's Guide* #700, dated April 17, 1987 (which will carry the results of voting), will be sent to any U.S. voter who does not already have a current or expired subscription to *CBG*. Votes from other countries will be counted, but we regret that a sample copy cannot be sent unless the vote is accompanied by $1.50 in U.S. funds to cover costs of handling and shipping to another country.

Mail your ballot individually in a single envelope by February 28, 1987, to: ***Comics Buyer's Guide*** Fan Awards, 700 East State Street, Iola, Wisconsin 54990.

Include your **Name, Age, Sex, Street** or **Box, City, State,** and **ZIP**.

Please type or print your votes and information clearly.



© MORNING STAR PRESS 1976

BLOODSTAR THE GRAPHIC NOVEL WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1976 BY MORNING STAR PRESS. THEY ALSO PRINTED THE COVER ART AS A POSTER AND WE HAVE A FEW OF THESE FOR SALE.

21" X 27" POSTER, EACH SIGNED BY CORBEN. $ 5.00

ORDER FORM

	TITLE	EACH	AMOUNT

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN, SEND ADDITIONAL POSTAGE.
SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR U. S. FUNDS ONLY.
WE ACCEPT PHONE ORDERS ON MASTERCARD AND VISA.

(816) 942-7805

CORBEN STUDIOS
P. O. BOX 8632
KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

SUBTOTAL	
MISSOURI RESIDENTS ADD 6 1/4% SALES TAX	
SHIPPING $3 FOR ONE PRINT, $4 FOR TWO OR MORE	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED.	

NAME ____________________

ADDRESS ____________________

CITY ____________________ STATE ____________ ZIP ____________

LETTERS CONTINUED . . .

HAVE BEEN LOST, FORGOTTEN, DISCARDED OR DESTROYED IN THE TIME SINCE THEN. IF THIS IS SO, WHY IS IT THAT NOT ONE BUT TWO READERS REMEMBER THE ORIGINAL VERSION AND HAVE REPRIMANDED ME FOR THIS APPARENT CENSORSHIP? WELL I MUST SAY THAT I AGREE WITH YOU, OR AT LEAST I DID UP UNTIL A COUPLE YEARS AGO. THERE CAN BE NO ARTISTIC JUSTIFICATION FOR ALTERING AN ARTWORK FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES. I SUPPOSE THERE MIGHT BE SOME OBJECTION TO RELATING MY COMIC STORIES OR COMIC ART IN GENERAL TO "REAL ART". COMICS ARE COMMONLY TREATED AS A COMMODITY RATHER THAN AN ART BY FANS, PUBLISHERS AND LAYFOLK ALIKE. SO IT CAN BE ARGUED THAT ALTERING COMIC ARTWORK IS LIKE PUTTING LETTUCE ON YOUR HAMBURGER; NO BIG DEAL.

ANOTHER POSSIBLE POINT OF VIEW, IF YOU ASSUME COMIC MATERIAL IS ART, IS THAT WHEN AN ARTIST CHANGES SOME OF HIS OLDER WORK, ITS OKAY. HE'S NOT DESTROYING THE ORIGINAL; HE'S CREATING A NEW VARIATION. IN THIS CASE IT'S A VARIATION THAT WILL DISCOURAGE IRATE PARENTS FROM DESCENDING UPON HELPLESS COMICS SHOPS WITH THEIR AXES AND TORCHES.

FINALLY THE REAL REASON . . . I'M NOT GOING TO KID YOU STEPHANIE. FANTAGOR PRESS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME AND I ENJOY DRAWING AND PUBLISHING COMICS. I'M NOT FAST ENOUGH TO WRITE & DRAW ALL NEW MATERIAL FOR EACH ISSUE AND KEEP TO A REASONABLE SCHEDULE, AT LEAST NOT WITH THE ADDITIONAL COVER WORK I ALSO DO. TO GIVE THE SERIES THE BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS, I PROMISED THE DISTRIBUTORS AND DEALERS THAT RIP WOULD HAVE NO "ADULTS ONLY" STORIES. (THIS HAS ALSO CAUSED FRICTION BETWEEN BRUCE AND I.) FORTUNATELY, I HAVE APPROXIMATELY 1000 PAGES OF OLD CORBEN COPYRIGHTED COMIC MATERIAL THAT I CAN USE AS BACKUP FEATURES; BUT UNFORTUNATELY, VIRTUALLY ALL OF IT IS FOR ADULT OR MATURE READERS. ALSO, MUCH OF THIS OLD MATERIAL IS IN PRINT (THE CATALAN BOOKS). SO FOR THE BACKUP PAGES, I TRIED TO CHOOSE APPROPRIATE SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, WITH THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF PAGES, WITH THE LEAST PUBLISHED EXPOSURE AND BEST ABLE TO SURVIVE THE RIGORS OF "DRESSING UP" FOR A WIDER AUDIENCE. I FEEL THE NUDITY IN THE ORIGINAL GOING HOME WAS HONEST, INOFFENSIVE, AND EVEN ADDED TO THE SENSE OF THE ANDROIDS INNOCENCE. BUT COMIC DEALERS PUT UP WITH PEOPLE WITH INFLEXIBLE ATTITUDES; SO, I DECIDED THIS TIME IT WAS BETTER TO COVER THE NUDES. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, MELTON'S BIG GAME IN RIP 1 WAS ALSO ALTERED TO TONE DOWN THE "COLORFUL" LANGUAGE. IN THIS ISSUE, THE CHANGES IN THE SECRET OF ZOKMA ALSO INVOLVE NUDITY BUT THIS TIME IN THE ORIGINAL IT WAS MORE GRATUITOUS. THE NEW VERSION ALSO HAS THREE ADDITIONAL PAGES WHICH MAKES THIS A MORE COMPLETE VERSION.

DEAR RICH & BRUCE,

RIP IN TIME IS GREAT! FROM THE TITLE — WHICH IS PERFECT AND FUNNY AND APPROPRIATE — TO THE SCRIPT AND DIALOGUE WHICH IS EXCELLENT — TO THE ARTWORK — WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT RICH CORBEN'S ART THAT HASN'T BEEN SAID BY BETTER MEN THAN ME? THE COVERS ALONE ARE WORTH THE PRICE OF THE BOOKS — #3 IS GOING TO BE SO GOOD. LOVE THOSE DINOSAURS. THE REPRINTS OF MR. CORBEN'S OLDER STORIES ARE MUCH APPRECIATED ALSO — I FIRST DISCOVERED HIM IN "SLOW DEATH" BACK IN THE 60'S BUT I HADN'T SEEN THESE STORIES BEFORE. WELL I COULD RAVE FOR DAYS BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, SO THANKS FOR A GREAT COMIC AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

IN THE FUTURE LET'S HAVE SOME COLOR STORIES ON BETTER PAPER — I'LL PAY THE EXTRA COST AND I'LL BET LOTS OF OTHERS WILL AS WELL.

FRANK HANNON
BOSTON, MASS.

THANKS FOR THE COMPLIMENTS. I HOPE MANY READERS AGREE WITH YOU ABOUT PAYING MORE MONEY FOR COLOR AND BETTER PAPER. INCIDENTALLY, IN OUR CONTINUING QUEST FOR IMPROVEMENT, FANTAGOR PRESS HAS USED THREE PRINTERS IN THREE ISSUES OF RIP. THIS ONE IS ON A WHITER PAPER WHICH SHOULD IMPROVE THE TONES.

DEAR FANTAGORIANS:

THE STORY AND PLOTTING ARE TOP NOTCH, AND CORBEN'S ART IS AS GOOD AS ANYTHING HE'S EVER DONE (WELL ALMOST ANYTHING; DEN AND NEW TALES OF THE ARABIAN NIGHTS HOLD THAT HONOR).

I NOTICE THAT MR. CORBEN IS DRAWING DIFFERENT FEMALE BODY TYPES TO GO WITH THE DIFFERENT FACES. WHILE IT IS GOOD TO LISTEN TO CRITICS, LET'S NOT FORGET THAT MANY READERS, LIKE MYSELF, PREFER YOUR DEPICTION OF MALE AND FEMALE ANATOMY LIKE YOU'VE ALWAYS DRAWN IT: STYLIZED. ANYBODY CAN DRAW "REGULAR" HUMANOID TYPES. WHAT I EXPECT FROM A CORBEN BOOK ARE IMPOSSIBLY-MUSCLED MEN AND ULTRA-VOLUPTUOUS WOMEN. THERE'S A LOT TO BE SAID ALSO FOR THE LACK OF GRAPHIC VIOLENCE IN THE BOOK. IT SHOULD BE USED SPARINGLY, BUT SHOULD BE THERE TO GIVE THE BOOK A CERTAIN "BITE". DITTO NUDITY. USE IT SPARINGLY, BUT DO USE IT. OTHERWISE VIOLENCE AND NUDITY BECOME OBVIOUS BY THEIR VERY ABSENCE, AND GIVES THE BOOK A DISTURBINGLY SELF-CONSCIOUS FEEL.

FINALLY THE PACE OF THE BOOK ALMOST MAKES UP FOR THE ABOVE SHORTCOMINGS. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND I HOPE SALES WARRANT YOU GOING FULL COLOR SOON.

ARI E. QUIRCH
HIALEAH, FLA

YES, VIOLENCE IS THE SPICE OF COMICS AND RIP HAS ITS SHARE. BUT ALAS, YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR THE NUDES. AT LEAST FOR THE DURATION OF RIP. ACTUALLY, I'VE ACCEPTED THIS RESTRICTION AS A CHALLENGE AND TRIED TO SUGGEST THE SENSUAL ASPECT OF THE CHARACTERS IN AN INDISTINCT, HALF FORMED WAY, THROUGH THEIR CLOTHING. IT IS AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.

DEAR BRUCE AND RICH,

RIP IN TIME #2 WAS AS BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED AS #1, BUT THE STORY SEEMS TO HAVE GONE THE ROUTE OF MOST MINI-SERIES, STRETCHING THE STORY, LEAVING ALL THE MAJOR TWISTS FOR THE FINAL ISSUE. THERE WAS PLENTY OF ACTION IN #2, BUT THERE WAS NO ADVANCEMENT OF THE OVERALL PLOT OF THE SERIES. AT THE END OF ISSUE ONE SCULLY, RESNICK AND THE TWO GIRLS WERE TRAPPED IN THE PAST WITH NO ABILITY TO INDEPENDENTLY RETURN TO THE PRESENT AND HOPE OF AN EARLY RESCUE. EVEN THE CONFLICT BETWEEN SCULLY AND RESNICK WASN'T ADVANCED. COLONEL NELSON'S MYSTERIOUS CALL TO ROPER HINTS AT A WIDENING OF PLOT, THOUGH, SO PERHAPS YOU INTENDED A SLOW ISSUE AS A SETTING OF THE STAGE, AND NOT AS A STRETCHING OF THE PLOT (THE PAGE BUILDING UP TO ROPER'S ANSWERING THE PHONE WAS VERY POWERFUL, BY THE WAY, PRESENTING THE CHARACTER AS A GREAT THREAT WHILE TELLING NOTHING ABOUT HIM, LEAVING A SINISTER SHADOW OF MYSTERY OVER THE CHARACTER — AND ALSO PRESENTING A POSSIBLE FORESHADOWING OF FUTURE MALICIOUS ACTS).

PLEASE TAKE ONE SPECIAL NOTE: I WINCE EVERY TIME I SEE RESNICK USE THE WORD "COPPER." TO MY KNOWLEDGE, IT'S A TERM THAT'S BEEN DEAD SINCE THE 1940'S AND ITS USE IN THE CURRENT STORY HARDLY CREATES NATURAL SOUNDING DIALOGUE.

DAVE BERKEBILE
BOCA RATON, FL. 33429

THAT'S ALL FOR THIS ISSUE. WATCH FOR RIP 4 IN MARCH. THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES WHEN SOME OF RIP'S PROBLEMS SEEM TO BE RESOLVED, BUT A MUCH WORSE ONE APPEARS, COLD AND CRUEL.

RIP AND DARLENE GET HUNGRY AND GO HUNTING . . . SID AND MAGGIE MAKE SPORT WITH THE SAURIANS . . . PROFESSOR PHILPOT GETS MAD . . . AND RIP CONFRONTS SID . . . FINALLY!

RICHARD CORBEN ART PRINTS

WIZARD'S DREAMS WAS THE COVER ILLUSTRATION FOR THE ***1986 CORBEN CALENDAR***, ALTHOUGH I'VE LIGHTENED A FEW PASSAGES SINCE THAT PUBLICATION. THE FIGURE AND THE GENERAL STRUCTURE WAS INSPIRED BY REMBRANDT'S ***JEREMIAH LAMENTING THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM***. SOME OF THE DREAM FIGURES WERE SKETCHED IN WITH AN AIRBRUSH AND LEFT SOFT AND INDISTINCT. THIS PRINT IS A REPRODUCTION OF AN ORIGINAL OIL PAINTING, 18" X 29". PRINTED ON LUSTRO SAXONY, 80 POUND, ACID FREE, 25% RAG PAPER. WITH CARE IT WILL LAST HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

UNMATTED 7 1/2" X 12" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500 SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN $ 15.00

TO ORDER USE THE FORM ON THE LAST PAGE.

LABYRINTH IS PARTLY AN ARTISTICALLY EDITED IMAGE OF A REAL ROCK QUARRY NEAR KANSAS CITY AND PARTLY IMAGINED. WHEN MY AGENT SAW THE ART, HE SAID THE SMALL FIGURE SHOULD HAVE BEEN OMITTED BUT I FEEL IT LENDS A SENSE OF SCALE. IT ALSO GIVES THE VIEWER A STARTING POINT TO WHICH TO RELATE AND COMPOSITIONALLY IT CREATES A COUNTERPOINT OF TENSION AGAINST THE MOON AND THE EDGE OF THE BLUFF. THIS PRINT IS A REPRODUCTION OF A 30" X 40" ORIGINAL OIL PAINTING WHICH WAS PART OF THE 1986 ART IN THE WOODS SHOW IN OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS.

UNMATTED 12 1/2" X 17" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY ON ANTIQUE WHITE, 80 POUND, ACID FREE, 25% RAG PAPER. LIMITED EDITION OF 250 SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN $ 22.00

© RICHARD CORBEN 1986